



THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY *Spring* RECYCLETTER

Spring 2011

Number 87

Program Update

Here we go again! Spring is a busy season for the Recycling Volunteer program. We have already participated in multiple outreach events where volunteers have shared with County residents all there is to know about recycling.

This spring the Division will be holding three paper shredding/recycling and donation collection events and your help will ensure the events run smoothly. Additional information is available in this edition of the Recycletter and new information will be emailed. Don't forget, if you know of an upcoming event in your community let us know. We are always looking for new events to educate residents about recycling and reducing waste.

Your continued support strengthens the Division and our ability to educate the community.

Thank you for your time and dedication.

Recycling Volunteer Coordinator

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**SHRED,
RECYCLE,
DONATE!**

**Shred and recycle
your confidential
paper and donate
clothing and
household goods in
working condition.**

**Saturday, April 30, 2011
10:00am to 2:00pm**

Walter Johnson High School
6400 Rock Spring Drive
Bethesda, Maryland 20814

**Sunday, May 22, 2011
10:00am to 2:00pm**

Northwest High School
13501 Richter Farm Road
Germantown, Maryland 20874

**Saturday, June 25, 2011
10:00am to 2:00pm**

White Oak Middle School
12201 New Hampshire Avenue
Silver Spring, Maryland 20904

**Activities will occur
rain or shine.**

Services provided by, and partners in this event are, Office Paper Systems, A Wider Circle, Goodwill of Greater Washington, and National Children's Center, Inc.

Montgomery County Division of Solid Waste Services Visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling or call 3-1-1 or (240) 777-0311 or Maryland Relay 7-1-1 (TTY)

Isiah Leggett, County Executive

Volunteer Opportunities

In lieu of holding one large Earth Day celebration, the Division decided to extend the celebrations to several paper shredding/recycling and clothing and household goods donation events starting in April and ending in June. As listed above, the events will be held at various Montgomery County schools. We are in need for volunteers to help us during the events. Please let me know if you are interested in helping out.

Glass Recycling 101

How many of you have wondered whether or not a particular type of glass is recyclable or not? Can ceramics be recycled? Why or why not?

Believe it or not recycling glass isn't as simple as you may have thought -- not all glass is created with the same ingredients.

When we talk about recycling, we talking about recycling glass beverage and food bottles and jars. It is safe to recycle these type of materials because they meet regulations and are certified to be used for food.



Ceramics, including drinking glasses, are made differently and may contain hazardous materials such as lead. Do not place oven ware, drinking glasses, incandescent light bulbs, windows, windshields and mirrors in your curb side recycling bin. If these items are in good condition sell them at a yard sale or donate them. If the items are not in good condition, dispose of them in the trash.

Why is this important? Glass is recycled by using a heat-intensive melting process. The different chemicals found in drinking glasses, oven ware, incandescent light bulbs, windows, windshields and mirrors, glass vary and are different from glass beverage and food bottles and jars. These items may even have some plastic mixed in with them.

If these, unacceptable glass items are placed in the recycling bin, they contaminate the glass recycling process and cause problems because they have different melting points.

Please be sure to only recycle glass bottles and jars. Don't forget remove the lids from bottles and jars first and then recycle the lids too!

Volunteer Training Opportunities: Orientation

New volunteers are invited to participate in a volunteer orientation session.

Wednesday,
May 18, 2011
6:30pm to 7:30pm

The **orientation** session will be held at the Executive Office Building located at 101 Monroe Street, 6th Floor, Rockville, MD 20850.

To register, contact Ana Arriaza at 240-777-6445 or e-mail ana.arriaza@montgomerycountymd.gov.

Save the Date!

We will be honoring **YOU!** Please save the date for our Annual Recycling Volunteer Appreciation and recognition ceremony. This event is in honor of your hard work and dedication.

*Tuesday, May 24, 2011
6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.*

*Executive Office Building
Lobby Level Auditorium
101 Monroe Street
Rockville, Maryland 20850*

**Thank you for your time and
dedication to the Recycling
Volunteer Program!**

Great Job!

On Saturday, March 12, 2011, 18 volunteers helped out during the annual St. Patrick's Day parade at the Washingtonian Center in Gaithersburg. Initially the weather was very nice, however once the parade got started the temperatures dropped a little. Even with the cold weather, volunteers helped with decorating the recycling truck and carrying signs or recycling bins during the parade. Many thanks to Will Hunter who debuted as Rocco, the recycling retriever. Great job Will!



Recycling Volunteer Program

Green Gardens

As the weather improves we will be spending more time outside tending our gardens. Below are a couple of thoughts on how to make our gardens and patios a little greener!

Purchase recycled-content items

If you are in the market to purchase new patio furniture, kids play-sets, or benches, invest in recycled content items. These outdoor items can be made with recycled-content plastic. The great thing is that the recycled-content material is easy to care for and withstands a range of climates including hot summer and cold winters. In the end, this can save you money by not having to purchase new items as often and you will not have to worry about splinters!



Reuse

Instead of buying seedling containers re-use egg cartons instead. If you use egg cartons you can plant the seedlings and cartons directly into the ground once they are ready to be planted outside. The paper decomposes[®]. If you use Styrofoam egg cartons you will have to transplant the plants when they are ready to be planted outside.



Compost

Instead of buying commercial fertilizer or compost, compost at home. It is natural and free! Montgomery County provides residents with compost bin at no additional charge. If you are using one of the compost bins provided by the County simply add your yard trim materials such as: grass and leaves and watch the magic happen!



MONTGOMERY COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
DIVISION OF SOLID WASTE SERVICES
RECYCLING VOLUNTEER PROGRAM
101 Monroe Street, 6th Floor
Rockville, Maryland 20850



Events Calendar

For more information about the events below, please contact the Recycling Volunteer Program at (240) 777-6445 or e-mail us at ana.arriaza@montgomerycountymd.gov.
All of our activities are approved Student Service Learning experiences.

Date		Time	Event	Location
April	30	12pm to 4pm	Forest Friends Festival and Arbor Day Celebration	Bethesda
	30	10am to 2pm	DSWS Earth Day Shredding/Donation Event	Bethesda
May	1	10am to 1pm	St. Rose de Lima Church Composting Presentation	Gaithersburg
	15	11am to 5pm	Taste of Wheaton	Wheaton
	22	10am to 2pm	DSWS Earth Day Shredding/Donation Event	Germantown
	24	6:30pm to 7:30pm	Volunteer Appreciation Ceremony	Rockville
June	5	12pm to 4pm	Electronics recycling collection event	Silver Spring
	25	10am to 2pm	DSWS Earth Day Shredding/Donation Event	Silver Spring



We will keep you updated as more events get added to the calendar!